

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -  
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules  
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202  
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,  
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,  
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

To: The Secretary, FCC Commissioners, and Chief, Media Bureau

I am a voter.  
I am a citizen.  
I am an educator.  
I hold a PhD in business from Columbia University.

You represent me and my fellow citizens.

I ask you to just say NO to any possibility of increasing the  
concentration of media ownership of any kind.

I am appalled by the continuing granting of monopoly licenses to media  
corporations. The practice goes against every tenet of protection that  
the constitution tried to establish.

Please oppose any further changes that would allow media to be controlled  
by single organizations. This is NOT free enterprise, it is the  
government granting monopoly licenses. The 1996 Telecommunications act  
was a gross malfeasance of justice.

Although I generally favor free enterprise, there is no such thing in the  
broadcasting industry because the government grants monopoly licenses.

When you grant licenses, you must regulate those licenses in the public  
interest.

Allowing broadcast media companies to merge with print media companies is  
a very bad and dangerous idea that will come back to haunt every  
politician and government official.

It will essentially give the power to control elections, news, and the  
government to the most ruthless  
corporations, some of which are not even American corporations. Review  
your history. You will notice the problem first occurred in cities when  
there was only one newspaper. Electronic media has expanded the scope,  
but left the problem the same.

You must act now to insure that the press, and the rest of the media,  
actually remains free and independent, not a monolithic privately  
controlled empire. You must take steps to break up these monolithic media  
empires.

Don't let it come back to haunt you.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Olney, PhD  
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p.s. If you are not fully aware of just how concentrated the media have already become, see:  
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/cool/giants/>  
for the state of the media in 2 years ago. There have been additional mergers and acquisitions since.